Weymouth

# A N N U A L  R E P O R T

1920.

To/

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF

W E Y M O U T H.

To/
THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF
WEYMOUTH.

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"HILLFIELD",
BROADWEY,
DORSET.
19th September, 1921.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to lay before you my first Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of this District.

I wish to remind you that I performed the duties of Medical Officer of Health for the last three months only of 1920; and owing to the unfortunate illness of my predecessor, Dr. Hawkins, I have not felt at liberty to consult him with regard to this report.

There are several defects in the Sanitary arrangements of this district that will one day need attention. But in the present state of public finances it is useless to indicate them. I wish to draw your attention to two matters that can be remedied without expenditure of public money.

The standard of cleanliness of the milk produced in this district must be raised. The dangers of unclean milk, especially to infants, should be realized, and the responsibility thereby incurred must be brought home to each individual who is concerned either in the production of milk or in its transport to the consumer.

It is to be hoped that grade A milk will be produced in increasing quantities. A much greater approximation to the grade A Standard is desirable and essential in all the milk produced. It is quite possible.

Another object to be attained is a closer co-operation as regards sanitary affairs with the neighbouring authority, the Borough Council of Weymouth.

From many points of view the whole district South of the Ridgeway water shed is one sanitary area. Without co-operation there will be waste of effort and money.

Your obedient servant,

J. A. Pulham

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

The Area of the District is 29008 acres.

Population estimated for 1920 8188

" Census 1911 8398.

The Chief occupation of the inhabitants is farming.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The Registrar General has sent the following memorandum:-

In 1920 demobilization had reached a stage at which it is felt that the distinction between "birth-rate populations" and "death-rate populations", made during the period when a large part of the male population was under arms, might in general be discontinued. For most districts, therefore, a single estimate of population is shown and this is applicable to both births and deaths. For a few areas which contain an appreciable non-civilian population, however, two estimates of population, one for calculation of the birth-rate and one for the civilian death rate, are given, as in recent years.

DEATHS.

Total 101 - 12.3 per 1,000

INFANTILE DEATHS.

Total 13 - 75 per 1,000 born.

No deaths were caused by Diarrhœa or Enteritis.

BIRTHS.

Total 164 = 20.0 per 1,000

7 were illegitimate.

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, and ANALYSIS of MORTALITY during the Year, 1 9 2 0.

(Provisional figures. Provisional populations estimated to the middle of 1920 have been used for the) (purposes of this Table. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and ) ( ales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.)

| | Birth Rate per 1,000 Total Population. | Annual Death-Rate per 1,000 Population. | | | | | | | | | Rate per 1,000 Births | | Percentage of Total Deaths. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | All Causes | Enteric Fever. | Small-Pox | Measles | Scarlet Fever. | Whooping-Cough. | Diphtheria | Influenza | Violence. | Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under 2 Years.) | Total Deaths under One Year. | Deaths in Public Institutions | Certified Causes of Death. | Inquest Cases. | Uncertified Causes of Death. |
| England and Wales - | 25.4 | 12.4 | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.19 | 0.04 | 0.11 | 0.15 | 0.28 | 0.48 | 8.3 | 80 | 24.3 | 92.2 | 6.6 | 1.2 |
| 96 Great Towns, including London (Census Populations exceeding 50,000). | 26.2 | 12.5 | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.22 | 0.04 | 0.14 | 0.16 | 0.31 | 0.43 | 10.4 | 85 | 31.3 | 92.2 | 7.1 | 0.7 |
| 148 Smaller Towns (Census Populations 20,000-50,000). | 24.9 | 11.3 | 0.02 | 0.00 | 0.19 | 0.03 | 0.10 | 0.14 | 0.27 | 0.38 | 7.8 | 80 | 16.5 | 93.2 | 5.3 | 1.5 |
| London - - - - | 26.5 | 12.4 | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.22 | 0.05 | 0.17 | 0.22 | 0.30 | 0.47 | 9.5 | 75 | 46.8 | 91.2 | 8.6 | 0.2 |
| Weymouth R.D.C. - | 20.0 | 12.3 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.36 | 0.00 | 0.24 | 0.24 | 0.00 | 78 | | | | |

TABLE XV.

Violence.

WATER SUPPLIES.

All the villages in the Rural District are in possession of good and sufficient water supplies, the Weymouth Waterworks Company supply the following villages, Preston, Broadwey, Upwey, Chickerell and Charlestown, also Wyke Regis.

The Villages of Porfesham and Abbotsbury have piped supplies the former is under the Control of the Parish Council and the latter under the ownership of Lord Ilchester.

Osmington is supplied by a pipe service, the source and the Water rights are invested in private ownership.

The other Villages have supplies from deep wells or Springs.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The only river of importance in the district is the river Wey, this rises in Upwey and flows through the villages of Upwey, Broadwey, Radipole and thence discharges into the Weymouth Backwater, pollution of this river may be considered very little and care is taken to prevent such pollution.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

In one village (which is the largest one in the area) a proper drainage system was laid down in the year 1902, this system has given every satisfaction and during the period of the War the Camps situated in the village were connected up to the system, the treatment of sewage here is by means of open Septic Tanks and land filtration, the effluent being afterwards discharged into the Portland Harbour under licence from the Admiralty, Chemical Analysis of this effluent are made from time to time and the result of such analysis is always very satisfactory, the Admiralty have made tests of this effluent on several occasions with good results.

The other villages are drained to cesspools and Earth Closets and owing to the district being an Agricultural one the disposal of the sewage is not a difficult one,

SCAVENGING.

A regular system of Scavenging is carried out at Wyke Regis, the collection of house refuse is made twice weekly, this work is let off by Contract to a Farmer who disposes of the refuse on his land as manure, all waste paper etc., is burnt. Few complaints are received in respect to any nuisance arising from this method of disposal.

The other Villages dispose of their refuse on the gardens or allotments, this arrangement up to the present time is quite satisfactory, the districts are mostly agricultural and good gardens are provided to the dwellings which enable this disposal of the house refuse to be effectively arranged.

Building Byelaws are in force in the whole of the district and plans have to be submitted for any new dwellings that are erected.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| The approximate number of | Water closets are | 800. |
| | Earth closets | 870 |
| | Other do. | 400. |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number converted to | W.C's | during the year | 5 | |
| do. | do. | E.C's | do. | 12. |

The School premises in the district are very satisfactory both as regards the Buildings and the Sanitary arrangements. In case of Infectious disease breaking out the Schools are specially inspected by the Medical Officer and Inspector, and if necessary disinfection of the premises is carried out by the Council.

MILK SUPPLY.

This trade may be considered fairly satisfactory throughout the district, but is capable of improvement.

A considerable quantity of Milk is sent into the adjacent towns, although a very considerable quantity is now sent to the Factories.

Frequent inspections of the premises and Cattle are made by the M. O. H. and Inspector, the Cattle taken on the whole are well selected and carefully kept, but there are exceptions.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

There are 54 Registered Cowkeepers, Dairymen and Purveyors of Milk in the district, the regulations as to the above premises are carefully observed and few complaints have been made during the past year, the tendency to curtail labour is somewhat noticed, this is due to the greatly increased wages paid to the workers.

Improvements in the buildings are being made when repairs are necessary, and cement concrete floors are gradually being provided in lieu of the Stone or pitched floors, but a great many of the occupiers of these premises have objections to concrete floors, the principal objection being that such floors do not afford a good foothold for the beasts, this idea is gradually being overuled.

Sanitary Inspections of the district are made by the Medical Officer and Inspector, the defects are noted and instructions issued for their attention, the occupiers and owners generally, give the matter attention without having to issue formal notices.

Owing to the greatly increased cost of materials and labour, the owners do not so readily execute the works necessary as formerly, but with falling markets and wages this trouble will it is hoped soon be remedied.

There are 63 workplaces and workshops in the district, these are subject to inspection from time to time, no prosecutions have been necessary during the year.

HOUSING.

The housing accomodation is far from good. Many of the cottages are old and in a bad state of repair. In some cases repairs and alterations have made such premises suitable for occupation, but in many other cases nothing has been done. There is a great need of new cottages so that closing orders may be made in respect of the old ones. At present it is useless to ask for a closing order as the present occupants have nowhere else to go. There is a certain amount of overcrowding.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are 7 Slaughter Houses in the area, these premises are very suitable and well kept, frequent inspections are made by the Inspector, especially during the time of killing.

During the year two carcasses have been condemned and also two lambs sent from the market for killing that were not in proper condition were returned to the Farm for attention to enable them to be brought up to a proper standard fit for food.

The quantity of cattle slaughterdd at the present time is considerably less than pre-war, owing to the use of imported meat, a good supply of which is now kept in the local Cold Storage at Weymouth.

## WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

There are 66 workshops and work places in the district these are subject to inspection.

No Prosecutions have been necessary during the year.

## SANITARY INSPECTORS REPORT.

To the Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for 1920.

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of Inspections made | 685 |
| Informal Notices sent out for attention | 131 |
| Complaints received and attended to | 23 |

Works found necessary and carried out.

| | |
|---|---|
| Limewashing and cleansing premises ... | 27 |
| General repairs roofs, floors, etc., | 13 |
| Drains cleared ... ... ... | 14 |
| Drains repaired ... ... ... | 9 |
| Redrainage of premises ... ... | 3 |
| New W.C's ... ... ... ... | 3 |
| Ditto. supplied with water ... | 3 |
| Cesspools emptied and cleansed ... | 9 |
| Ditches cleansed. ... ... ... | 5 |
| Premises generally cleansed ... | 3 |
| Ditto. overcrowded and abated ... | 2 |

## HOUSING ACT, 1909.

Two houses have been closed under orders during the past year.

Disinfection of premises after Infectious Disease and for other causes.

29 premises.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Total number of notifiable diseases notified - 30.

| | No. of cases. | No. sent to Hospital. |
|---|---|---|
| Scarlet Fever | 6 | 5 |
| Diphtheria | 1 | 1 |
| Varicella (Chicken Pox) | 3 | 0 |
| Erysipelas | 3 | 0 |
| Pneumonia | 3 | 0 |
| Malaria | 3 | 0 |
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis | 11 | 0 |

APPENDICES.

# HOUSING CONDITIONS.

## STATISTICS.

Year ended 31st December 1920.

### 1. - GENERAL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (1). | Estimated population - - - - - - | 8188 |
| (2). | General death-rate - - - - - | 12.3 |
| (3). | Death-rate from tuberculosis - - - - - | 0.73 |
| (4). | Infantile mortality - - - - - - | 78 per 1,000 Births. |
| (5). | Number of dwelling-houses of all classes - - | 2073 |
| (6). | Number of working-class dwelling-houses - - | 1477 |
| (3). | Number of new working-class houses erected - - | Nil. |

### 2. - UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.

1. - INSPECTION.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (1). | Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) - | 403 |
| (2). | Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations,1910. - - - - - - | 32 |
| (3). | Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. - - - - - - | 2 |
| (4). | Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. | 13 |

11. - REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers - - - - - - - - | 63 |

111. - ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A. Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, Ac., Act, 1919.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (1). | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs - - - - | 5 |
| (2). | Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit - | |
| | (a) by owners - - - - - - - | 5 |
| | (b) by Local Authority in default of owners - | Nil. |
| (3). | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close - - - | 2 |

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (1). | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied - | 114 |
| (2). | **Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied** | |
| | (a) by owners - - - - - - - | 114 |
| | (b) by Local Aythority in default of owners - | Nil. |

(2). Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied

C. Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (1). | Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders - - - - - | 2 |
| (2). | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made. - - - - - - | 2 |
| (3). | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit. - - - - - - | Nil. |
| (4). | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. - - - - | 2 |
| (5). | Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders - - - - - - | 2 |

3. - UNHEALTHY AREAS.

Areas represented to the Local Authority with a view to Improvement Schemes under (a), Part I., or (b), Part II., of the Act of 1890. - -

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (1). | Name of area - - - - - - - - | Nil. |
| (2). | Acreage - - - - - - - - | |
| (3). | Number of working-class houses in area. - - - | |
| (4). | Number of working-class persons to be displaced - | |

4. - Number of houses not complying with the building bye-laws erected with consent of Local Authority under section 25 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919 - - - - Nil.

5. - Staff engaged on housing work with, briefly, the duties of each officer - - - - - - - - M. O. H. & Sanitary Inspector.